

NOMINATION FOR AWARD		
AWARD General Thomas D. White Cultural Resources Management Award	CATEGORY (If Applicable) Installation	AWARD PERIOD 1 Oct 99 - 30 Sept 02
RANK/NAME OF NOMINEE (First, Middle Initial, Last) 611th Civil Engineer Squadron	SSN (Enter Last 4 Only)	MAJCOM, FOA, OR DRU PACAF
DAFSC/DUTY TITLE	NOMINEE'S TELEPHONE (DSN & Commercial)	
UNIT/OFFICE SYMBOL/STREET ADDRESS/BASE/STATE/ZIP CODE 611th Civil Engineer Squadron/CC, 10471 20th St, Ste 302, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-2200		
RANK/NAME OF UNIT COMMANDER (First, Middle Initial, Last)/COMMANDER'S TELEPHONE (DSN & Commercial) Lt Col Mark S. Tissi, DSN 317-552-2217; Comm (907) 552-2217		
SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS (Use single-spaced, bullet format)		
<p>COMPLYING WITH THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT AND OTHER HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIRECTIVES: <i>Preserving the precious past for the future!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Led complex MOA with Alaska State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and 5 Native Alaskan groups for history, archaeology and paleoclimatology project at Cape Lisburne Long Range Radar Site -- Partnered with University of Colorado, AFCEE and local tribal corporation to complete stipulations of MOA; mastered complicated cultural, logistical, and educational challenges to achieve agreement -- Cutting-edge research of importance to cultural resources management and climate change science - Introduced, scoped, and consulted on MOA for Distant Early Warning (DEW) Radar System with 6 tribes, 5 Restoration Advisory Boards, SHPO, and National Park Service (NPS); superb coordination -- Submitted greatly improved HABS/HAER drawings to NPS for Library of Congress records -- Integrated meaning of DEW Radar System to history/culture of local villages; innovative approach - Completed MOA for eroding site at Tin City LRRS with consultation from local tribe and SHPO -- Leveraged opportunity to educate LRRS site workers, university students, and tribal members - Proactively managed upgrade effects at radar on Shemya Island, a highly technical Cold War site -- Teamed with Missile Defense, Army CoE, and SHPO to ensure no adverse effects by upgrades - Leader in the identification, testing, and analysis of 'new' archaeological site at Eareckson AS -- Facilitated completion of critical sewer line project by detailed, prompt review of the isolated site -- Partnered with regional Aleut Corporation to develop plan for repatriation of human remains -- Swiftly developed new steps for subsurface excavation to expedite future homeland defense projects - Out-front leader in complying with National Historic Preservation Act and Archaeological Resources Protection Acts; proactive approach protected cultural resources and met all mission requirements <p>EXCEEDING THE NORMAL REQUIREMENTS TO INVENTORY, NOMINATE AND PROTECT HISTORICAL RESOURCES: <i>Outstanding leadership and action protecting resources!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provided resident archaeologist responsible for implementation of cultural resources programs and historic preservation activities at 40 installations on 37,490 acres dispersed over 570,000 square miles -- Formidable scope; installations range from 200 to 1,500 miles distant; no one comes close in scope! - Completed archaeological surveys for 10 remote installations, supporting AK Clean Sweep program -- Surveys expertly assessed damage to fragile north coastal resources following a 100-year storm - Closely coordinated with SHPO, tribes, Fish/Wildlife Service (FWS), CoE, and interested scholars to protect threatened archaeological sites at properties adjoining Eareckson AS and 2 remote radar sites - Aggressive cultural resources program produced professional credibility, local participation in resources management and mission-essential enhancements within time and budget constraints - Expert knowledge of regulator requirements; selected collections facilities to comply with 36CFR79 to insure preservation of sensitive artifact collections under Air Force control for future generations - Accomplished draft document on subsistence practices at northern and northwest coast Alaska radar sites to better integrate resources management and environmental protection with local resources - Saved historic chapel at Galena from demolition by transferring it to local community for public use - Procured legacy funding to inventory and evaluate Traditional Cultural Properties on DoD land - Increased quality of plans and studies; utilized outside experts with many years of local experience <p>INTEGRATING HISTORIC PRESERVATION REQUIREMENTS WITH INSTALLATION DECISION MAKING: <i>Excellent teamwork makes preservation a seamless part of our mission!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordinated all research and analysis for Cultural Resources Management Plan (CRMP) on Cold War era White Alice Communications System for 17 installations throughout Alaska; extraordinary results -- Huge effort led by one-person office, despite arctic condition, abandoned sites, and difficult access - Updated CRMPs for Galena Forward Operating Base, Eareckson, and 18 Alaska Radar System sites - Prevented serious damage to prehistoric settlement from airfield drainage project at Cape Lisburne site - Continued long-range research and documentation to mitigate effects of demolition projects at 40 sites 		

NOMINATION FOR AWARD (Continued)

RANK/NAME OF NOMINEE (First, Middle Initial, Last)

611th Civil Engineer Squadron

SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS (Use single-spaced, bullet format) (Continued)

- Proactively planned for projects supporting Ground-based Missile Defense at Eareckson Air Station
 - Spearheaded review and consultation on National Register (NR)-eligible Cobra Dane radar facility changes; efforts let agencies accomplish work schedules on time while preserving Cold War history
- Skillfully utilized professional skills within the squadron for time efficiency and cost savings
- Completed skills training for updated information; insuring effective results with regulators
- Collaborated with Engineering Flight to assure preservation-sensitive repairs and SHPO concurrence

COOPERATING WITH OTHER AGENCIES, INDIAN TRIBES AND THE PUBLIC:

- Conducted first-ever repatriation of human remains and funerary objects to the Aleut Corporation
 - Consulted to establish required plan for rapid response in case of future inadvertent discoveries
- Expertly advised Eleventh Air Force commander on Alaskan tribal issues and contact information
- Coordinated with FWS, BLM, and Chaluka Corporation to foster transfer of runway and cemetery
- Consulted with 6 tribes, 6 municipalities and others on effects of Clean Sweep on former DEW sites
- Set protocols for consultation at Galena Airport; implemented MOU with Loudon Tribal Council
- Consulted with 9 tribes on environmental restoration work at Cape Romanzof and Big Mountain sites
 - Information shared among DoD and tribes at Chevak, Hooper Bay, Paimuit, Scammon Bay, Iliamna, Kokanok, Igiugig, Pedro Bay, and Newhalen on health/environmental impacts of projects
 - Integration of IRP and traditional tribal corporations now share knowledge of tribes and AF ways
- Developed new methods to interact with Alaska tribes through Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC)
- Co-managed cultural resources issues at Eareckson AS with U.S. FWS, Missile Defense, and CoE
- Funded and led project for benefit of Army, Air Force and Tanana Chiefs with help of native tribes
- Cooperated with Bureau of Indian Affairs for cemetery protection on sensitive restoration project

PROMOTING CULTURAL RESOURCES AWARENESS: *Educating about cultural treasures!*

- Developed/presented briefing on Alaska Native issues for local commanders to aid them in decisions
- Provided detailed briefings to Group staff on cultural resources laws, procedures and requirements
- Provided Anchorage elementary archaeology instruction, emphasizing Alaskan archaeological projects
- Administered Nation's only Cold War Working Group; group's sessions served as focal points for state and DoD agencies to address issues surrounding conservation of historical resources
- Proactively educated radar site/program managers on care of historic buildings/archaeological sites
- Managed and mentored ongoing Legacy Project to train TCC interns to inventory and evaluate Traditional Cultural Projects on DoD lands throughout Interior Alaska; built trust and awareness
- Consulted on site with federally recognized tribes and interested parties in five North Slope villages associated with National Register-eligible DEW system in Alaska; completely in step with local issues
 - Included presentations at tribal offices and Restoration Advisory Board meetings in each community
- Designed/presented cutting-edge program on Traditional Cultural Properties to State Anthropological Association, a professional organization teamed with CoE and TCC; recognized expert and peer
- Partnered with CoE to educate Eareckson workers about archaeological protection and public law
- AF's voice for all cultural resources issues in Alaska; provided expert advice and attention to highly sensitive issues of history and Alaska Native communities throughout state on all remote projects
- Employed and educated Alaska Native history and culture interns and experts for Legacy project

PROMOTING CONSERVATION EDUCATION: *Working for the common good of all Alaska!*

- Sponsored Government-to-Government training project for Air Force employees and tribal members with 611th Air Support Group Native Liaison officer; forged closer productive working relationships
- Developed booklets and histories of Galena/King Salmon Forward Operating Bases and Air Control and Warning System to save Cold War historic knowledge as they get upgraded to serve AF missions
- Organized and planned training class for all federal agencies on "Maintaining Historical Buildings in Alaska" to be presented in Spring 2003; recognized leader statewide in cultural resources management
- Presented archaeology program to 6th grade students for Alaska Anthropological Association's Education Committee during Bureau of Land Management's "Outdoor Week;" superbly delivered!
- Presented instruction in cultural resource laws/regulations to 611 ASG leaders and interested parties
- Persistently educated employees and contractors on federal responsibilities to protect cultural resources and the traditional importance of those places and resources to local communities and tribes
 - Enhanced squadron's ability to foster community trust, protect resources and facilitate mission
- Provided member to Alaska Anthropological Association's Public Education Committee; leaders in cultural resources conservation education for the state of Alaska; provided annual poster programs
- Contributed cultural resources articles and updates to newsletters, bulletins, and newspapers